able to assess the extent of repair it needed, they were not able to assess the extent of equipment it needed. So they demanded a fresh price. I agree with the hon. Member that the Russian Government now has demanded a substantially huge amount for this aircraft carrier.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Government come out with a 'White Paper' on this?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: I am answering your question. Be patient. We have not entered into any new contract with Russia to procure an aircraft carrier so far. Only negotiations are going on. Recently, there was one round of contract negotiations with the Russian Government and the aircraft company. But it is inconclusive. One thing I can assure the hon. Member and the House that before taking a final decision in regard to this contract, we will assess and we will go through all the criticism levelled from all quarters, including the CAG. After verifying everything, we will enter into a contract. At the present stage, only negotiations are going on. Nothing has been decided finally.

Failure of the Mini-Ministerial talks at WTO

*366. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state why is our Government continuing to engage in negotiations at the WTO on the Doha round after the failure of the Mini-Ministerial talks at the WTO in Geneva and given the fact that the US Government cannot make any clear commitments at the present juncture?

TME MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Following the impasse in the talks at the mini-Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) held in July 2008, the general opinion amongst all the WTO member countries was that the negotiations should resume at the earliest opportunity for successful conclusion of the Doha Round.

Further, the global economic crisis has occupied centre stage at most major international meetings in the recent past such as the G-20 held in London in April 2009 and the CAIRNS group meeting held in Bali in June 2009. At the G-20 Summit leaders of all the participating nations, including the US and India expressed their commitment to reaching an ambitious and balanced conclusion to the Doha Development Round.

India is committed to a rule-based multilateral trade regime that is fair and equitable and, towards this end, an early conclusion of the Doha Round is important; India is willing to take part in the negotiations at the WTO provided the core concerns of the Round, namely the development concerns of developing countries are addressed. Towards this end, India has been engaging constructively and actively with other fellow Member countries of the WTO.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Which are the countries, which are supporting our stand on agriculture in WTO? What efforts have been made to persuade them to fall in line with the point of view of India?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the question pertains to the WTO negotiations and why India is willing to engage with other countries. These are the multilateral trade negotiations in which 153 countries are involved. This Doha Round has a mandate which is dedicated to the developing countries. India is engaging with its partners in the developing countries, in G-20 and G-33 and has formulated a collective position to ensure that the historical distortions and imbalances in the global trade are corrected and the legitimate aspirations of the developing countries are met through a fair and equitable global trading regime and for that negotiations have been going on for many years. Last July, in the Mini-Ministerial Meeting, there was a pause reached or an impasse over non-convergence on a number of issues, including SSMs, agriculture, cotton and NAMA flexibilities. India has been articulating the concerns of the developing countries. It is not a question of this country or that country, it is not a question of with whom we have a difference; it is a collective position of India along with other developing countries. These are negotiations. What we have been impressing upon is that the need is to correct the distortions and to ensure that the mandate of the Doha Round is fully met, that is, to take on board the concerns and aspirations of the developing countries, including the livelihood concerns and subsistence of small farmers in our country and other developing countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Withdrawal of CRPF from Kashmir

*367. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal to withdraw CRPF from Kashmir and hand over the security operations to local police;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has proposed to review the capability of local police before handing over the operations to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) The CRPF is deployed in Jammu and Kashmir in aid of the State Government and its duties include both counter insurgency as well as assistance to the State Police for maintenance of law and order. The responsibility for maintenance of law and order rests with the State Government. The State Government is augmenting the State Police Force, and as and when the State Police Force is in a position to assume more responsibilities in maintaining law and order, some of the responsibilities